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**MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY**

May 17, 2004

Marlene H. Dortch, Esq.  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Southern Communications Services, Inc. d/b/a Southern LINC;  
Status Report on Hearing Aid Compatibility; WT Docket No.  
01-309**

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Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of our client, Southern Communications Services, Inc. d/b/a Southern LINC ("Southern LINC"), we are hereby submitting Southern LINC's status report on hearing aid compatibility. Southern LINC has prepared this report in accordance with information provided by its handset manufacturer, Motorola, Inc. We trust that the FCC will find this to be in order. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Very truly yours,

  
Christine M. Gill

Status Report on Hearing Aid Compatibility		
<b>Company Name:</b> Southern Communications Services, Inc. d/b/a Southern LINC		
<b>Address:</b> 5555 Glenridge Connector		
<b>City:</b> Atlanta	<b>State:</b> Georgia	<b>Zip Code:</b> 30144
<b>Phone:</b> 678-443-1562	<b>Fax:</b> 678-443-1670	<b>Email:</b> jfucci@southernco.com
<b>Compliant Phone Models:</b>		
<b>Phone Model</b>	<b>ANSI C63.19 Rating</b>	
To Be Announced	To Be Determined	
<b>Product Labeling Information:</b>		
It is Southern LINC's understanding that its sole equipment vendor, Motorola, Inc, is making the necessary changes to the packaging of the handsets to indicate their ANSI C63.19 Rating.		
<b>Outreach Efforts:</b>		
Southern LINC is in the process of developing outreach marketing materials for use by its direct sales force, dealers and Southern LINC's "On-Line" web site. Southern LINC does offer a hearing-aid neck loop that, when attached to the handset, allows Southern LINC's handsets to function with hearing aid devices.		
<b>Retail Availability of Compliant Phones:</b>		
It is Southern LINC's understanding that its sole equipment vendor, Motorola, Inc, projects compliant phones will be available in advance of the compliance dates set by the FCC. Compliant phones are not currently available on the retail market as the industry continues to work on how to measure the phones accurately per the ANSI C-63.19 standard.		
<b>Efforts to Incorporate Hearing Aid Compatibility into Newer Models:</b>		
It is Southern LINC's understanding that its sole equipment vendor, Motorola, Inc., is actively pursuing the incorporation of hearing aid compatibility features in the iDEN handsets. Current iDEN models are equipped with a telecoil in the speaker to allow coupling with hearing aid telecoils.		
<b>Activities Related to ANSI C63.19 or Other Standards Work :</b>		
It is Southern LINC's understanding that its sole equipment vendor, Motorola, Inc., is actively pursuing the incorporation of ANSI C63.19 hearing aid compatibility features in the iDEN handsets. Motorola engineers were charter authors of the ANSI C63.19 document as it was being developed.		
<b>Total Number of Compliant Phones Offered:</b>	To Be Announced	
<b>Total Number of Non-Compliant Phones Offered:</b>	To Be Announced	
<b>Ongoing Efforts for Interoperability Testing with Hearing Aids:</b>		
It is Southern LINC's understanding that its sole equipment vendor, Motorola, Inc., in association with hearing aid manufacturers, is actively pursuing the interoperability testing for hearing aid compatibility in the iDEN handsets.		
<b>Information regarding differences in handset offerings among regions in service areas (For Service Providers only):</b>		
There are no differences in handset offerings in Southern LINC's service area. All handsets can be used throughout Southern LINC's service territory.		